



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



April 28, 2009

Mr. William Gash
Executive Director
Connecticut Maritime Foundation
P.O. Box 188
Stonington, CT 06378

Re: Letter of Support for an NEDC/EPA Grant to Repower/Retrofit Ferry Engines

Dear Mr. Gash:

The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) supports the Connecticut Maritime Foundation in its efforts to secure funding from the US Environmental Protection Agency under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding opportunity to repower the engines on ferries serving Connecticut ports.

This proposed project, if funded, would advance Connecticut's important work in reducing diesel emissions by replacing engines on ferries that operate from ports in the State. Reducing emissions from ferries is listed among the options set out in the Connecticut Clean Diesel Plan of 2006. In addition, such projects are an important part of decreasing diesel pollution from a host of activities concentrated at ports, including the operation of yard haulers, cranes and other diesel-powered equipment on the docks and emissions from drayage trucks loading, unloading and idling at the sites. Since many of Connecticut's ports are located in heavily impacted, environmental justice communities, DEP welcomes the opportunity to support port projects that have the potential to enhance the environment and protect the health of residents in these neighborhoods.

We are committed to working with the Connecticut Maritime Foundation, offering expertise based on our general experience in the field and assistance in promoting this project as an integral part of our diesel pollution reduction efforts.

Yours truly,

Amey Marrella
Deputy Commissioner

AM/PPK/ppk

cc: Anne Gobin, DEP - Bureau of Air Management
Tracy Babbidge, DEP - Bureau of Air Management
P. Kelly, DEP - Bureau of Air Management